

Department of Transportation Office of the Secretary

Pierre, SD 57501 Phone: 605-773-3265 FAX: 605-773-3921

Web site: www.sddot.com

For Immediate Release: Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011

Contact: Kristi Sandal, Public Information Officer, 605-773-3265

SDDOT Unveils New Road-Condition Website

Pierre, S.D. - The South Dakota Department of Transportation has unveiled a new and improved roadcondition reporting website.

Travelers who visit www.safetravelusa.com/sd will find a user-friendly map that shows road conditions, road construction, traffic cameras, and features not previously available.

"Safety is the department's No. 1 priority. By providing travelers of South Dakota highways with the most up-to-date road and weather information, we are giving them the tools to make good travel decisions," said Darin Bergquist, state Transportation Secretary.

Improvements to SafeTravelUSA include features requested by the website's users, including a bolder map that can be zoomed to all state highways, overlaid weather display, and larger camera images. By choosing from several icons on the right side of the map, users can customize the map to their individual needs.

As another added feature, locations on SafeTravelUSA and on South Dakota's phone-based 511 system will be referenced to geographic landmarks instead of highway mileposts.

Bergquist said the goal is to have www.safetravelusa.com/sd recognized as a "must-check" information site for travelers in South Dakota.

"Whether a motorist wants the latest information on a winter storm, road conditions during flooding, or simply a look where construction projects might affect travel, we want to www.safetravelusa.com/sd to provide that information clearly," he said.

Kristi Sandal, Public Information Officer 700 E. Broadway Ave. Pierre, SD 57501 605.773.3265 www.sddot.com